

Global Wave of Action for Free Education 2013

Following a call to action for the week of International Students Day, November 17 - 23, the 2013 the Global Wave of Action for Free Education (GWOA) saw a variety of tactics across a range of campuses. Here are some of the demonstrations we have chosen to highlight.

N17 - Casablanca, Morocco:

Students involved with Club Conscience Estudiante have been organizing a reading hour for two years. During a reading hour people come together to read on a particular subject and then host a

discussion. On Nov. 3 police declared the event a illegal gathering.

"A reading hour is an activity that is valuing the contribution of students in society. It is also a type of alternative protest and a great way of engaging in discussion with other people." On N17 students from other countries joined in a reading hour while dozens of students defied the police threats and convened a in Place Mohammed VI Casablanca .(Photo shown below)



N18 -.Pekalongan, Indonesia:

Students affiliated with the Indonesian Student Union (SMI) and FPBI (a confederation of labor groups) rallied on the main road in Pekalongan in Central Java. The leading banner of the demonstration called for free education in accordance with International Students Day. A solidarity demonstration also occurred at the Indonesian Universitas Islam Sultan Agung Semarang (UNISSULA). (Photo shown above).

scholars. The first two forums focused on student and labor issues. The final discussion on the 21st focused on the ongoing LGBT struggle in opposition to an upcoming marriage referendum preventing same sex marriage. On N22, students from Osijek, Rijek, Zadar and Zagreb hosted reading hours in solidarity with the Moroccan students.

N19 - 22 Osijek, Croatia:

Students organized a series of forums hosting community members and

About this newsletter

This newsletter is part of the communication infrastructure of the independent platform International Student Movement (ISM). The ISM is being used and shaped by individuals and groups around the world who are struggling against the increasing commercialisation of education and for free emancipatory education for all. This newsletter is the result of voluntary work done by a few individuals who are passionate about the cause. The positions expressed are not in any way representative for any group or the ISM as a whole.

website: ism-global.net

contact:

ism_admin@lists.riseup.net

twitter: @ISM030

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service workers, cooks, bus drivers, licensed vocational nurses, nursing assistants, medical assistants, and technicians.

Joining AFSCME on the picket line in Santa Cruz were members of UAW Local 2865, the union that represents student academic workers, as well as a variety of student groups, which included Autonomous Students UCSC and MEchA de UCSC. Those living in on campus family housing were allowed to enter the university during the strike. Emergency vehicles were also allowed to enter, but unlike previous campus shutdowns, the police were prevented from driving through, and according to demonstrators were turned away at least once. After a 12+ hour blockade in the rain, those blocking the west entrance marched down Empire Grade to the base of campus for a final rally. (Top 2 photos)

N20 - Yogyakarta, Indonesia:

Students affiliated with the Indonesian Student Union (SMI)



N20 -Santa Cruz, U.S.A:

Students and workers at the University of California in Santa Cruz (UCSC) blocked both entrances and shut the campus down in support of a University of California-wide unfair labor practices strike on November 20, called for by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees [AFSCME 3299]. According to a statement released by AFSCME 3299, the Unfair Labor Practices strike was called in response to a, "coordinated campaign of illegal intimidation, coercion, and threats," against UC Patient Care and Service Workers who participated in a walk out in May over unsafe staffing levels at UC supported hospitals. Workers on all UC Campuses and Medical Centers statewide participated in the strike. Workers represented by AFSCME include custodians, food

hosted a demonstration in the city center of Yogyakarta in front of the Office of Education, Sports and Youth. On a broad level, the students were expressing concerns as to the effects of the capitalist paradigm on education. More precisely, the students marched in opposition to a series of laws passed in 2012 and 2013 that opened the universities to privatization.

N21 - Raleigh, U.S.A.:

Students in Raleigh (NC) hosted a brief light brigade demonstration at the base of North Carolina State University's bell tower. The brigade quickly disbanded due to the weather and the University requiring a permit for any organized group more than 6 people. The students inadvertently made the University newspaper and

commented that "we were inspired by the ongoing global wave of action and wanted to show our support for free education in a creative yet manageable form." (Bottom Photo)